

U.S. Application No. 10/076,566

500.41209X00

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A retrieval device in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

a retrieval reservation registering unit, said retrieval reservation registering unit registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

a ~~duplicate integrating repetition eliminating~~ unit, said ~~duplicate integrating repetition eliminating~~ unit ~~combining duplicates eliminating repetitions~~ of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests requested in differing said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests in accordance with pre-stored rules to generate an integrated a repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request to ~~lessen~~ thereby reduce a number of retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests;

a retrieval device unit, said retrieval device unit retrieving information from the databases on the basis of contents of said integrated repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request ~~integrating said retrieval condition requests~~ to obtain retrieval ~~condition~~ results; and

an output creating unit, said output creating unit creating, on the basis of the retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by the users and said retrieval ~~condition~~

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results, retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to be sent to said users when information is retrieved from said databases.

2. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 1, wherein in said retrieval reservation registering unit, ~~duplicates~~ repetitions are checked and eliminated in said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests which exist at present and in the past so as to ~~integrate retrieval conditions~~ create the repetition-free key request.

3. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 2, wherein said retrieval device unit edits said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data ~~[[in]]~~ according to a predetermined format ~~[[by]]~~ that is specific to each user, by checking ~~duplicates~~ repetitions of the retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users respectively, and sends said edited retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to said users respectively on the basis of retrieval ~~conditions~~ key requests desired by said users, said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data being acquired on the basis of said repetition-free retrieval key request ~~integrated retrieval conditions~~.

4. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 3, wherein upon editing of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results by user, said retrieval device unit eliminates ~~duplicates~~ repetitions in contents from said retrieval ~~condition~~ results desired by each of said users and ~~integrates said retrieval condition results by each of said users~~ when there are said ~~duplicates~~ repetitions in contents of said retrieval ~~condition~~

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results, so that said retrieval device unit sends the edited ~~[[said]]~~ content-repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to said user.

5. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 2, comprising a method in which at least one previously retrieved result is held in said retrieval reservation registering unit, so that, when a user issues a retrieval ~~condition~~ key request, said user selects on a basis of information freshness desired by the user to acquire a retrieval ~~condition~~ result from said held at least one previously retrieved result among a predetermined time interval or to execute a new retrieval from original data.

6. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 3, wherein, when there are ~~duplicates~~ repetitions in retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests among users and said ~~retrieval-condition-requests-are-integrated~~ repetitions are eliminated to thereby acquire said retrieval ~~condition~~ results, said retrieval device unit~~[[,]]~~ makes, on the basis of retrieval, copies of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results, integrates ~~duplicates~~ eliminates repetitions in said retrieval ~~condition~~ results by each of the users, and sends thus modified said retrieval ~~condition~~ results to said respective users issuing said requests for said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data.

7. (currently amended) A retrieval device according to Claim 1, wherein said retrieval device unit acquires or sends retrieval ~~condition~~ results in accordance with

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said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests at predetermined intervals of time on the basis of predetermined information freshness.

8. (currently amended) A retrieval method in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

~~combining duplicates~~ eliminating repetitions of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests requested in differing said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests in accordance with pre-stored rules to generate an integrated a repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request to lessen thereby reduce a number of retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests;

retrieving information from databases on the basis of contents of said integrated repetition-free retrieval ~~condition~~ key request ~~integrating said registered retrieval condition requests~~ to obtain retrieval ~~condition~~ results; and

creating, on the basis of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users and said retrieval ~~condition~~ results, retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to be sent to said users, and sending said retrieval ~~condition~~ results data to said users when information is retrieved from said databases.

9. (currently amended) A retrieval method in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

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~~integrating said~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval condition requests key
request by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ in said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests;

retrieving information from said databases by using said ~~integrated repetition-~~
~~free retrieval condition requests and acquiring~~ key request to acquire retrieval
condition results;

generating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ of retrieval condition results from said
acquired retrieval condition results;

editing said ~~duplicates repetitions~~ of retrieval condition results on the basis of
said retrieval condition key requests; and

~~integrating said duplicates of~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval result results
of said ~~retrieval condition~~ by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ from said retrieval
condition results to be sent to each of said users on the basis of similarity between
contents of said retrieval condition results.

10. (currently amended) A retrieval device in a system having computers and
databases connected to one another, comprising:

a retrieval reservation registering unit, said retrieval reservation registering
unit registering retrieval condition key requests issued by users;

a repetition-free retrieval condition requests integrating key request creating
unit, said repetition-free retrieval condition requests integrating key request creating
unit ~~integrating said~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval condition requests key request
by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ in said retrieval condition key requests;

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a retrieval unit, said retrieval unit retrieving information from said databases by using said ~~integrated retrieval condition requests and acquiring~~ repetition-free retrieval key request to acquire retrieval condition results;

a ~~duplicate~~ repetition generating unit, said ~~duplicate~~ repetition generating unit generating ~~duplicates~~ repetitions of retrieval condition results from said acquired retrieval condition results;

a retrieval condition results editing unit, said retrieval condition results editing unit editing said ~~duplicates~~ repetitions of retrieval condition results on the basis of said retrieval condition key requests; and

~~a retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit, said ~~retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit integrating said ~~duplicates of retrieval condition results~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval result by eliminating ~~duplicates~~ repetitions from said retrieval condition results to be sent to each of said users on the basis of similarity between contents of said retrieval condition results.

11. (currently amended) A retrieval method in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

registering retrieval condition key requests issued by users;

~~combining said retrieval condition requests~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval key request by eliminating ~~duplicates~~ repetitions existing in differing said retrieval condition key requests;

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retrieving retrieval ~~condition requests~~ results from said databases by using said ~~integrated retrieval condition requests~~ repetition-free retrieval key request;

generating ~~duplicate repetitive~~ retrieval ~~condition~~ results from said retrieval ~~condition~~ results;

editing ones of said ~~duplicate repetitive~~ retrieval ~~condition~~ results on a basis of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests; and

~~integrating said duplicate retrieval condition results~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval result by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ from said repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results to be sent to each of said users on a basis of similarity between contents of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results.

12. (currently amended) A retrieval device in a system having computers and databases connected to one another, comprising:

a retrieval reservation registering unit, said retrieval reservation registering unit registering retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests issued by users;

~~a retrieval condition requests integrating repetition-free retrieval key request creating unit, said retrieval condition requests integrating repetition-free retrieval key request creating unit~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval key request combining said retrieval condition requests by eliminating ~~duplicates repetitions~~ existing in differing said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests to produce integrated retrieval ~~condition~~ requests;

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a retrieval device unit, said retrieval device unit retrieving retrieval ~~condition~~ results from said databases by using said ~~integrated retrieval condition requests~~ repetition-free retrieval key request;

a ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval result generating unit, said ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval result generating unit generating ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results from retrieval ~~condition~~ results;

a retrieval ~~condition~~ results editing unit, said retrieval ~~condition~~ results editing unit editing said ~~duplicate~~ repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results on a basis of said retrieval ~~condition~~ key requests; and

a ~~retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit, said ~~retrieval condition results integrating~~ repetition-free retrieval result creating unit ~~integrating said duplicate retrieval condition results~~ creating a repetition-free retrieval result by eliminating ~~duplicates~~ repetitions from said repetitive retrieval ~~condition~~ results to be sent to each of said users on a basis of similarity between contents of said retrieval ~~condition~~ results.